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EXAMINER

JOO, JOSHUA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2154

DATE MAILED: 12/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/932,107

Applicant(s)

ROLLINS, DOUG

Examiner

Joshua Joo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 October 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-9, 16, 18-25, 27-29, 37-39 and 41-48 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 3-9, 16, 18-25, 27-29, 37-39, 41-48 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Response to Amendment filed 10/16/2006

1. Claims 1, 3-9, 16, 18-25, 27-29, 37-39, 41-48 are presented for examination.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3-9, 16, 18-25, 27-29, 37-39, 41-48 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 3, 8, 16, 18, 23, 25, 27-29, 37-39, 41-42, and 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reynolds, US Publication #2002/0059368 (Reynolds hereinafter), in view of Banerjee et al, US Patent #6,760,017 (Banerjee hereinafter).

5. As per claims 1, 25, and 37, Reynolds teaches substantially the invention as claimed including a computer administration system for accessing a computer system in a computer network, each computer system having at least one operator interface and being adapted to provide operator interface data signals containing user output information through the operator interface (Paragraph 0020. Video output port.) and being adapted to receive operator interface data signals containing user input information through the operator interface (Paragraph 0021. Keyboard input port.), the operator interface including a keyboard connector configured to receive keyboard signals from a keyboard (Paragraph 0021. Keyboard input port. Keyboard link for keyboard input signals.) and separate video connector configured to provide video

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signals to a video device (Paragraph 0020. Video output port. Video link conveys video output signal.), the operator interface data signals transferred through the keyboard connector having keyboard signals and the operator interface data signals transferred through the video connector having the video signals, Reynolds' teachings comprising:

each system communications device being adapted to be coupled to the keyboard and video connectors of the operator interface of a corresponding computer system to provide keyboard signals through the keyboard connector and receive video signals through the separate video connector (Paragraph 0020. Base station interfaced with video output ports of the host computer Paragraph 0021. Base station is interfaced with keyboard input port of the host computer.), each system communications device operable in a transmit mode to receive the operator interface data signals from the corresponding computer system through the operator interface of the corresponding computer system and to generate corresponding operator interface transmission signals (Paragraph 0020. Receive video output signal from host computer. Paragraph 0024; 0026. Multiplex video information from the host computer for output to remote unit.), and operable in a receive mode to receive operator interface transmission signals and generate corresponding operator interface data signals that are applied to the corresponding computer system through the keyboard and video connectors of the operator interface of the corresponding computer system (Paragraph 0006. Base station provides bidirectional communication, video output and keyboard input, between host computer and remote unit. Paragraph 0027. Receive keyboard data, and demodulate keyboard data into keyboard signals for host computer.); and

a remote access device comprising,

a remote communications device operable during the transmit mode to receive the operator interface transmission signals from the selected system communications device and to generate corresponding operator interface data signals (Paragraph 0031. Detect RF transmission from base station and outputs video data signal. DSP performs signal processing.), and operable during the receive mode to

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receive operator interface data signals and generate corresponding operator interface transmission signals that are applied to the selected system communication device (Paragraph 0032. Keyboard signal is modulated and applied over transmission data link to base station.); and

an operator interface device coupled to the remote communications device and adapted to accept user input and provide user output, the operator interface device operable to generate user output in response to the operator interface data signals from the remote communications device, and operable in response to user input to apply corresponding operator interface data signals to the remote communications device (Paragraph 0031-0032. Remote unit comprises user interface to display video output and accept keystroke input.).

6. Reynolds teaches substantial features of the claimed invention. However, Reynolds does not explicitly teach of a plurality of computer systems and a plurality of system communications devices corresponding to the computer systems; and the remote device operable to select a system communication device. Banerjee teaches of a system for a wireless device that can interface to a plurality of computer systems, wherein the wireless device is operable to select a computer system (Col 55, lines 45-61).

7. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made that Reynolds' teachings can be implemented for more than one computer, thus allowing a plurality of host computers to utilize base stations that correspond to the host computers for remote communications. Furthermore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Reynolds and Banerjee to implement a wireless device operable to select a communication device, which would enhance the system of Reynolds by allowing a user to communicate with multiple computers with a single wireless unit.

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8. As per claim 16, Reynolds teaches the invention as claimed including a computer administration system for accessing a computer system in a computer network, each computer system having at least one operator interface and being adapted to provide operator interface data signals containing user output information through the operator interface (Paragraph 0020. Video output port.) and being adapted to receive operator interface data signals containing user input information through the operator interface (Paragraph 0021. Keyboard input port.), and each computer system (Paragraph 0020; 0021. Display monitor and keyboard installed at the work station.), the operator interface including a keyboard connector configured to receive keyboard signals from a keyboard (Paragraph 0021. Keyboard input port. Keyboard link for keyboard input signals.) and separate video connector configured to provide video signals to a video device (Paragraph 0020. Video output port. Video link conveys video output signal.), the operator interface data signals transferred through the keyboard connector having keyboard signals and the operator interface data signals transferred through the video connector having the video signals, Reynolds' teachings comprising:

each system communications device being adapted to be coupled to the keyboard and video connectors of the operator interface of a corresponding computer system to provide keyboard signals through the keyboard connector and receive video signals through the separate video connector, each communications device further adapted to be coupled to the local operator interface device, (Paragraph 0020. Base station interfaced with video output ports of the host computer. Display monitor at workstation. Paragraph 0021. Base station is interfaced with keyboard input port of the host computer. Keyboard at workstation.),

the system communications device operable to operate in a transmit submode to receive the operator interface and to generate corresponding operator interface transmission signals (Paragraph 0020. Receive video output signal from host computer. Paragraph 0024; 0026. Multiplex video information from the host computer for output to remote unit.), and to operate in a receive submode to receive

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operator interface transmission signals and to generate corresponding operator interface data signals that are applied to the corresponding computer system through the operator interface (Paragraph 0006. Base station provides bidirectional communication, video output and keyboard input, between host computer and remote unit. Paragraph 0027. Receive keyboard data, and demodulate keyboard data into keyboard signals for host computer.); and

a remote access device comprising,

a remote communications device operable during the transmit mode to receive the operator interface transmission signals from the selected system communications device and to generate corresponding operator interface data signals (Paragraph 0031. Detect RF transmission from base station and outputs video data signal. DSP performs signal processing.), and operable during the receive mode to receive operator interface data signals and generate corresponding operator interface transmission signals that are applied to the selected system communication device (Paragraph 0032. Keyboard signal is modulated and applied over transmission data link to base station.); and

an operator interface device coupled to the remote communications device and adapted to accept user input and provide user output, the operator interface device operable to generate user output in response to the operator interface data signals from the remote communications device, and operable in response to user input to apply corresponding operator interface data signals to the remote communications device (Paragraph 0031-0032. Remote unit comprises user interface to display video output and accept keystroke input.).

9. Reynolds teaches substantial features of the claimed invention including a base station installed at the workstation, and connected to the keyboard input and video output of a computer. However, Reynolds does not explicitly teach of a plurality of computer systems and a plurality of system communications devices corresponding to the computer systems; each system communications device, operable in a local-user mode to apply the operator interface data signals from the computer system to a

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local operator interface device to allow the computer system to be controlled through the local operator interface device, and the system communications device operable in an override mode to inhibit control of the computer system through the local operator interface device and the remote device operable to select a system communication device. Banerjee teaches of a system for a wireless device that can interface to a plurality of computer systems comprising a host computer with local operator interface to allow a computer to be controlled through the local operator interface (Col 42, lines 61-67; Col 43, lines 49-60), the wireless device, through communication with the interface of the host computer, operable to inhibit control of the computer system through the local operator interface (Col 43, lines 49-56. Black screen, disable keyboard.); and a wireless device operable to select a computer system (Col 55, lines 45-61)

10. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that Reynolds' teachings can be implemented for more than one computer, thus allowing a plurality of host computers to utilize base stations that correspond to the host computers for remote communications. Furthermore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Reynolds and Banerjee to provide local interface operator signals by the base station and inhibit control of computer of the computer system through the local operator interface with the motivation that users would be allowed to access workstations without requiring the wireless unit or uninstalling the base station since the base station is connected to the input/output ports, and also preventing conflicting control of the computer.

11. As per claims 3, 18, 27, and 42, Reynolds teaches the computer administration system of claims 1, 16, 25, 37, wherein the remote communication device receives the operator interface transmission signals from the selected system communications device (Paragraph 0020. Receive video output signal from host computer. Paragraph 0024; 0026. Multiplex video information from the host computer for output to remote unit.) and applies the operator interface transmission signals to the selected system

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communications device via a wireless communications link (Paragraph 0032. Keyboard signal is modulated and applied over transmission data link to base station. Paragraph 0040. Wireless link.).

12. As per claims 8, 23, and 47, Reynolds teaches the computer administration system, wherein the operator interface signals are encoded for transmission by the transmitting system communications device or remote communications device and are decoded by the receiving system communications device or remote communications device (Paragraph 0024. Video information are multiplexed and encoded. Paragraph 0027. Keyboard signal is demodulated and decoded.).

13. As per claim 28, Reynolds teaches the computer administration system of claim 25, wherein the operator interface device comprises a plurality of buttons (Paragraphs 0031-0032. Keyboard.).

14. As per claim 29, Reynolds does not specifically teach the computer administration system of claim 25, wherein the operator interface device comprises a touch screen and plurality of buttons are displayed on the touch screen display. Banerjee teaches of an operator interface device comprising a touch and a plurality of buttons displayed on the touch screen (Col 3, lines 48-61. The wireless interface device comprises includes a graphical user interface, where input is by way of a passive stylus. A virtual keyboard is provided and the activation of the keys is by way of the stylus or finger input.).

15. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Reynolds and Banerjee because the teachings of Banerjee for a operator interface device to comprise a touch screen and plurality of buttons would enhance the system of Reynolds by allowing users to conveniently select features and options on the interface of the wireless unit.

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16. As per claim 38, Reynolds teaches the computer administration system of claim 37, wherein at least some of the computer systems comprise servers (Paragraph 0033. Server.).

17. As per claim 39, Reynolds teaches the computer administration of claim 37, wherein at least some of the computer systems comprise workstations (Paragraph 0033. Workstation.).

18. As per claim 41, Reynolds teaches the computer administration system of claim 37, wherein at least some of the computer systems comprise local operator interface devices (Paragraphs 0019; 0021. Display monitor and keyboard installed at the workstation). However, Reynolds does not specifically teach of each corresponding system communication device is operable in a pass-through mode to couple the operator interface data signals between the local operator interface device and the computer system to allow the local operator interface device to control the computer system, and is operable in an override mode to operate in the transmit and receive modes to allow the remote access device to control the computer system. Banerjee teaches of a system for a wireless device that can interface to a plurality of computer systems comprising a host computer with local operator interface to allow a computer to be controlled through the local operator interface (Col 42, lines 61-67; Col 43, lines 49-60), the wireless device, through communication with the interface of the host computer, operable to inhibit control of the computer system through the local operator interface (Col 43, lines 49-56. Black screen, disable keyboard.); and a wireless device operable to select a computer system (Col 55, lines 45-61).

19. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Reynolds and Banerjee to provide local interface operator signals by the base station, and to inhibit control of computer of the computer system through the local operator interface with the motivation that users would be allowed to access workstations without requiring the wireless unit

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or uninstalling the base station since the base station is connected to the input/output ports, and also preventing conflicting control of the computer.

20. Claims 4-7, 9, 19-22, 24, 43, 44-46, 48, and are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reynolds and Banerjee, in view of Tang et al, US Patent #6,347,095 (Tang hereinafter).

21. As per claims 4, 19, and 43, Reynolds does not specifically teach the computer administration system of claim 1 wherein the remote communications device further operates to identify the system communications devices proximate the remote access device and the operator interface allows a desired identified system communication devices to be selected. Tang teaches of a wireless communication between devices, where a device can identify and communicate with a plurality of devices within its proximity (Col 4, lines 43-56).

22. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Reynolds, Banerjee, and Tang because all three teachings deal with communications between a plurality of devices in a wireless environment. Furthermore, the teachings of Tang to identify and communicate with devices within its proximity would improve the system of Reynolds and Banerjee by allowing the user to recognize near devices that can be communicated with (Col 4, lines 17-26).

23. As per claims 5, 20, and 44, Reynolds does not specifically teach the computer system administration as defined in claims 4, 19, and 43, wherein the user output generated by the operator interface device comprises a list of system communication devices and the operator interface device comprises a plurality of buttons that allow the desired identified system communication to be selected. Banerjee teaches of a system, wherein user output generated by the operator interface device comprises a

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list of host computers and the operator interface device comprises a plurality of buttons that allow the desired identified host computer be selected. (Col 10, lines 1-3; Col 48, lines 20-24).

24. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Reynolds and Banerjee because the teachings of Banerjee to output a list of system of host computers and a plurality of buttons that allow a desired host computer to be selected would improve the system of Reynolds by allowing a user with or in management of more than one computer to control and communicate with computers through a single wireless unit

25. As per claims 7, 22, and 46, Reynolds does not specifically teach the computer administration system of claims 5, 20, and 44, wherein the operator interface device comprises a touch screen and plurality of buttons are displayed on the touch screen display. Banerjee teaches of an operator interface device comprising a touch and a plurality of buttons displayed on the touch screen (Col 3, lines 48-61).

26. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Reynolds and Banerjee because the teachings of Banerjee for a operator interface device to comprise a touch screen and plurality of buttons would enhance the system of Reynolds by allowing users to conveniently select features and options on the interface of the wireless unit.

27. As per claims 9, 24, and 48, Reynolds does not specifically teach that the wireless communication link comprises a communication link communicating via Bluetooth protocol. Tang teaches of a wireless communication between two devices based on proximity, where wireless communication link uses the Bluetooth protocol (Col 5, lines 8-15; Col 5, lines 60-65).

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28. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the invention was made to combine the teachings of Reynolds, Banerjee, and Tang because all three teachings deal with wireless communications between two devices. Furthermore, the invention of Tang to use the Bluetooth protocol for wireless communications would improve the system of Reynolds and Banerjee by providing notification and location information of the computer systems and providing an alternative protocol for communication between the wireless interface device and the computer systems.

29. As per claims 6, 21, and 45, Reynolds does not specifically teach of buttons comprising a manual connect, previous, next, and select current buttons that allow the desired identified system communications device to be selected. However, Banerjee teaches a system for a wireless device controlling a host computer comprising performing a manual procedure for identified and connecting to the desired host computer (Col 10, lines 1-3); a hot icon area for switching control of the host computer (Col 48, lines 6-8); and selecting a host computer from a list of host computer groups that are accessible by the wireless interface are displayed (Claim 1; Col 48, lines 18-24).

30. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Reynolds, Banerjee, and Tang, and to utilize a manual connect, previous, next, and select current buttons because the buttons would improve the user-friendliness of the wireless interface device by allowing a user to conveniently and efficiently select a desired system computer device without going through various application screens.

Conclusion

31. A shortened statutory period for reply to this Office action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action.

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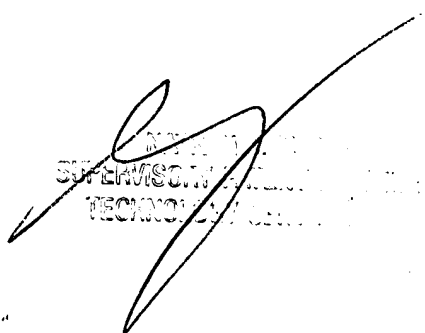
32. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joshua Joo whose telephone number is 571 272-3966. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday 8AM to 5PM and every other Friday.

33. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan J. Flynn can be reached on 571 272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

34. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

November 27, 2006

JJ



SUPERVISOR, PATENT APPLICATION
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